

HO-924

Stirn Farm Tenant House
8914 Old Frederick Road, Ellicott City
Howard County, Maryland

The Stirn Farm Tenant House is located at 8914 Old Frederick Road, about 2-1/2 miles northwest of Ellicott City in northeastern Howard County, Maryland. The house faces southwest toward the road, and is set close to the road. It is a two-story, three-bay by one-bay frame structure with a concrete foundation, wood shingle siding over circular-sawn vertical boards with wire nails, and a gable roof with inverted-V-seam metal and a northwest-southeast ridge. There is a brick chimney set southeast of center, and there was a two-story ell on the northeast, set to the east, that has recently been demolished. The first story has now been opened up to make one large room with an enclosed straight stair on the southeast and a chimney in the center that is enclosed with new brick veneer. The northwest end was closed off for the straight stair that ascends to the northeast, and there is a stair below it in the north corner that leads to the cellar. The second story has three chambers ranged along the southwest, with a stairway at each end and a passage along the northeast, at the east end.

In 1886 August Stirn purchased the 82-acre farm of John and Caroline Eschrich along the Old Frederick Road. The Stirn Farm Tenant House was probably built in three stages, with the northwest end constructed first, in the late nineteenth century, the southeast end added at the end of the nineteenth or early in the twentieth centuries, and the ell either added or rebuilt in the c. 1930-50 period. Much, if not all, of the work was likely done after Stirn acquired the farm. The tenant house was cut off in 1949 and sold to Floyd McGill. The McGill family owned the house until 2005, when it was purchased for the lot and a new house subsequently constructed behind it. This necessitated the demolition of the ell first, and eventually the entire building.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. HO-924

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Stirn Farm Tenant House

other _____

2. Location

street and number 8914 Old Frederick Road _____ not for publication

city, town Ellicott City X vicinity

county Howard

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Ariana & Haskell Arnold

street and number 8914 Old Frederick Road telephone 410-209-4883

city, town Ellicott City state MD zip code 21042

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Howard County Courthouse tax map and parcel: 17-40

city, town Ellicott City liber 9884 folio 176

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- Contributing Resource in National Register District
- Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
- Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- Recorded by HABS/HAER
- Historic Structure Report or Research Report
- Other _____

6. Classification

Category		Ownership	Current Function		Resource Count	
					Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/>	district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> structures
<input type="checkbox"/>	site		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> social	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects
<input type="checkbox"/>	object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> Total
			<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<u>1</u>	
			<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> unknown		
			<input type="checkbox"/> health care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use		
			<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other:		
				<u>Demolished 2006</u>		
					Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory	
					<u>0</u>	

7. Description

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Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Stirn Farm Tenant House is located at 8914 Old Frederick Road, about 2-1/2 miles northwest of Ellicott City in northeastern Howard County, Maryland.

Exterior

The house faces southwest toward the road, and is set close to the road. It is a two-story, three-bay by one-bay frame structure with a concrete foundation, wood shingle siding over circular-sawn vertical boards with wire nails, and a gable roof with inverted-V-seam metal and a northwest-southeast ridge. There is a brick chimney set southeast of center, and there was a two-story ell on the northeast, set to the east, that has recently been demolished.

On the southwest elevation, the first story has a center doorway with plain head-cut trim. The door has three lying lights over two lying panels and is not original to the frame. The hinges are original to the door, however. There is a six-over-six sash with head-cut trim in the west bay. The south bay has a new picture window that has a large light flanked by a two-over-two sash on each side. The south corner of the building has been ripped out, and is constructed with cut nails. There was a 2 1/2-bay, one-story shed-roofed porch on the southwest. The second story has three six-over-six sash with head-cut trim that is pedimented at the top. There is a wood box cornice, and the soffit of it follows the pitch of the rafters.

The northwest elevation has a door set to the north in the foundation. The first story has a six-over-six sash with pedimented trim to the west and an identical window in the center of the second story. The gable end has tarpaper over top of red vertical boards that contain the ghosts of battens. The southeast elevation has no opening on the first story. The second story has a new one-over-one sash in a new frame, set to the east. The gable end has an opening for a vent in the peak, and it is triangular.

On the northeast elevation, the first-story east bay has rough circular-sawn 2 by 4 studs with wire nails. This whole section was apparently rebuilt, probably when the ell was added. The ceiling here on the interior is exposed, and has the ends of tongue and groove ceiling boards that are blind-nailed with cut nails, then covered over with drywall. The center and north bays on this elevation each have a six-over-six sash with pedimented trim. The second story east bay has diagonal sub-floor and a rebuilt wall. In the ell there was a bathroom to the north with pink tile that had a black tile top edging. The center and north bays match the first story, and the cornice is identical to the southwest elevation. The wood shingles on the first story, between the two windows, are nailed over top of the red vertical-board siding. The metal roof is laid over wood shingles.

Interior

The cellar is presently under water. The joists are 2 by 8s at the northwest end that run northeast-southwest and are sash-sawn. They have a beam added beneath the center of the joists. The first story has tongue-and-grooved flooring that is 5-1/4 inches wide and runs northwest-southeast. The southeast end was originally a crawl space that was excavated at a later date.

The first story has now been opened up to make one large room with an enclosed straight stair on the southeast and a chimney in the center that is enclosed with new brick veneer. On the southwest wall, the south bay has tongue-and-grooved vertical-board half wainscot with wire nails, and this was covered by drywall. A stud between the south and center bays is a sash-sawn 2 by 4, and there is wide, sash-sawn horizontal board siding on the exterior side. These boards are flush, and are probably sheathing below exposed siding. Just south of the center door is circular-sawn lath with plaster below the drywall. The west doorjamb lath has wire nails. The northeast wall had knotty pine paneling, most of which has been removed, and had lath and plaster with wire nails below it. The northwest end was closed off for the straight stair that ascends to the northeast, and there is a stair below it in the north corner that leads to the cellar. This stair is finished with tongue-and-grooved boards. The windows and doors all have new trim, and there is carpet on the floor. The stair landing has 2 3/8-inch wide pine that runs northeast-southwest. These stairs are old, not a later addition. The windows have ovolo muntins and 8-inch by 10-inch lights. The sash are not pinned, and do not have parting beads or check rails.

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Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. HO-924

Name Stirm Farm Tenant House
Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 1

The second story has three chambers ranged along the southwest, with a stairway at each end and a passage along the northeast, at the east end. There is drywall, new trim, and carpet or some modern oak parquet flooring through the second story. The southeast end flooring is higher by several inches. The sash are identical to that on the first story. The southeast end flooring is 3 1/4-inch pine that runs northwest-southeast. There is a small hatch at the southeast end that gives access to the attic.

The attic joists are 3 inches by 9-1/2 inches and are set above the plate, because the ceiling of the second story follows the rafter pitch near the eaves for about 9-1/2 inches. The attic is not floored. The rafters are circular-sawn, about 2 by 8s, and have a ridgepole. They support board lath. The northwest end of the attic does not have a ridgepole and appears to be older.

The ell rafters are circular-sawn, approximately 2 by 6s with board lath, and the rafter feet were notched to fit over the plate and nailed to it with wire nails. There was a ridgepole where the rafters were set over the main block roof.

A new house has been constructed on this property, and the rest of this building will be demolished shortly.

8. Significance

Inventory No. HO-924

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime industry	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

Specific dates	n/a	Architect/Builder	n/a
Construction dates	c. 1890, c.1940		

Evaluation for:

National Register Maryland Register not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance reports, complete evaluation on a DOE Form - see manual.)

In 1886 August Stirn purchased the 82-acre farm of John and Caroline Eschrich along the Old Frederick Road, along with "all stock and farming implements and produce on the property" for \$3700. Unfortunately, the 1878 Hopkins Atlas does not show where the farm house was located, but it was almost certainly not right up on the road. The Stirn Farm Tenant House was probably built in three stages, with the northwest end constructed first, in the late nineteenth century, the southeast end added at the end of the nineteenth or early in the twentieth centuries, and the ell either added or rebuilt in the c. 1930-50 period. These dates are based loosely on the construction details visible, however the building has undergone considerable alterations and demolition, and it is possible that the whole main block was built at once and had been remodeled for any number of reasons. It is also possible that the earliest portion was built under the ownership of Eschrich, but much, if not all, of the work was likely done after Stirn acquired the farm. The house was probably built right on the old turnpike road to take advantage of its easy access to and from other locations, and was probably intended to bring in a little extra cash, rather than to provide living space for someone working on the farm.

August Stirn died in early 1932 and left the farm to two of his sons, Irvin and Roy. In 1946 Irvin Stirn sold his share to his brother, and Roy's son, Donald. The tenant house was cut off in 1949 and sold to Floyd McGill, with a ground rent that was extinguished in 1953. The McGill family owned the house until 2005, when it was purchased for the lot and a new house subsequently constructed behind it. This necessitated the demolition of the ell first, and eventually the entire building.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. HO-924

See ~~continuation sheet~~ *footnotes*.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property .5 A

Acreage of historical setting 82 A

Quadrangle name Ellicott City

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundary is the property lines.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Ken Short

organization Howard County Dept. of Planning & Zoning

date 7/23/2007

street and number 3430 Courthouse Drive

telephone 410-313-4335

city or town Ellicott City

state MD zip code 21043

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville MD 21032
410-514-7600

**HO-924 Stirn on Tenant House
8914 Old Frederick Road (Route 99)
CHAIN OF TITLE**

GRANTOR/HOME	GRANTEE/HOME	DATE	LIBER/ FOLIO	INSTRU- MENT	CONSIDER- -ATION	ACREAGE	NOTES
Ariana Arnold	Ariana & Haskell Shaun Arnold	2.23.2006	MDR 9884-176	Deed - fee simple	\$0	.5 A	
Arnold S. & Annie E. McGill	Ariana Arnold	7.29.2005	MDR 9446-344	Deed - fee simple	\$326,150	.5 A	
Phillip D. & Doris J. McGill (H/W)	Arnold S. & Annie E. McGill	6.23.1969	CMP 514-651	Deed - fee simple	\$5.00	.5 A	2 deeds
Floyd McGill/Howard	Phillip D. McGill/?	3.19.1952	MWB 231-101	Deed of Assignment	\$1.00	.5 A	Reserving a home in the dwelling to Floyd; \$1.00 ground rent A
Charles W. Brunzman & wf. Alice A./Carroll	Phillip D. McGill/?	10.9.1953	MWB 251-128	Deed - fee simple	\$1.00	.5 A	B
A. Roy & Gertrude M. Stirn (H/W)/Howard	Charles W. & Alice A. Brunzman (H/W)	6.11.1952	MWB 233-98	Deed - fee simple	\$1.00	.5 A	Subject to leasehold B
A. Roy & Gertrude M. Stirn (H/W) Donald R. & Gladys V. Stirn (H/W)/Howard	Floyd McGill/Howard	5.7.1949	MWB 211-337	Lease	\$1.00/year for 99 yrs.	.5 A	North side of Old Frederick Road See 193-305 & 51-326 A & B
C. Orman & Dorothy W. Manahan (H/W)/Howard	A. Roy Stirn for life Donald P. Stirn remainder (son of Roy)	10.24.1946	BM Jr. 193-305	Deed - fee simple	\$1.00	?	4 parcels
John George & Caroline Eschrich (H/W)/Balto. Co.	August D. Stirn/Balto. Co.	11.15.1886	LJW 51-326	Deed - fee simple	\$3,700	82-3-11 ARP	& "all stock & farming implements and produce" on the property 1
Irvin S. Stirn & wf. Ruth Ramsburg A. Roy Stirn & wf. Gertrude M./Howard	C. Orman Manahan	9.26.1940	BM Jr. 193-300	Deed - fee simple	\$1.00	1. 82+ A 2. 53 A 3. 7-3/8 A minus 1A, 3/4A & 2 other lots 4. 49 5. 145+ A 6. 80A	1. on Old Frederick Rd. 2. on Old Frederick Rd. 3. on Old Frederick Rd. 4. on Old Frederick Rd. 5. on College Ave. 6. on College Ave. B. Rosa Stirn predeceased August. August d. 1.2.1932

HO-924 Stirn Farm Tenant House
 8914 Old Frederick Road (Route 99)
 CHAIN OF TITLE

GRANTOR/HOME	GRANTEE/HOME	DATE	LIBER/ FOLIO	INSTRU- MENT	CONSIDER -ATION	ACREAGE	NOTES
August D. Stirn	Irvin S. Stirn A. Roy Stirn, sons of August	Written 6.2.1931 Probated 1.12.1932	<u>Wills</u> MFB 70-326	Bequest			6 th item in Will
Elizabeth S. & John A. Briscoe (H/W)	John George Eschrich	9.26.1876	LJW 37-133				

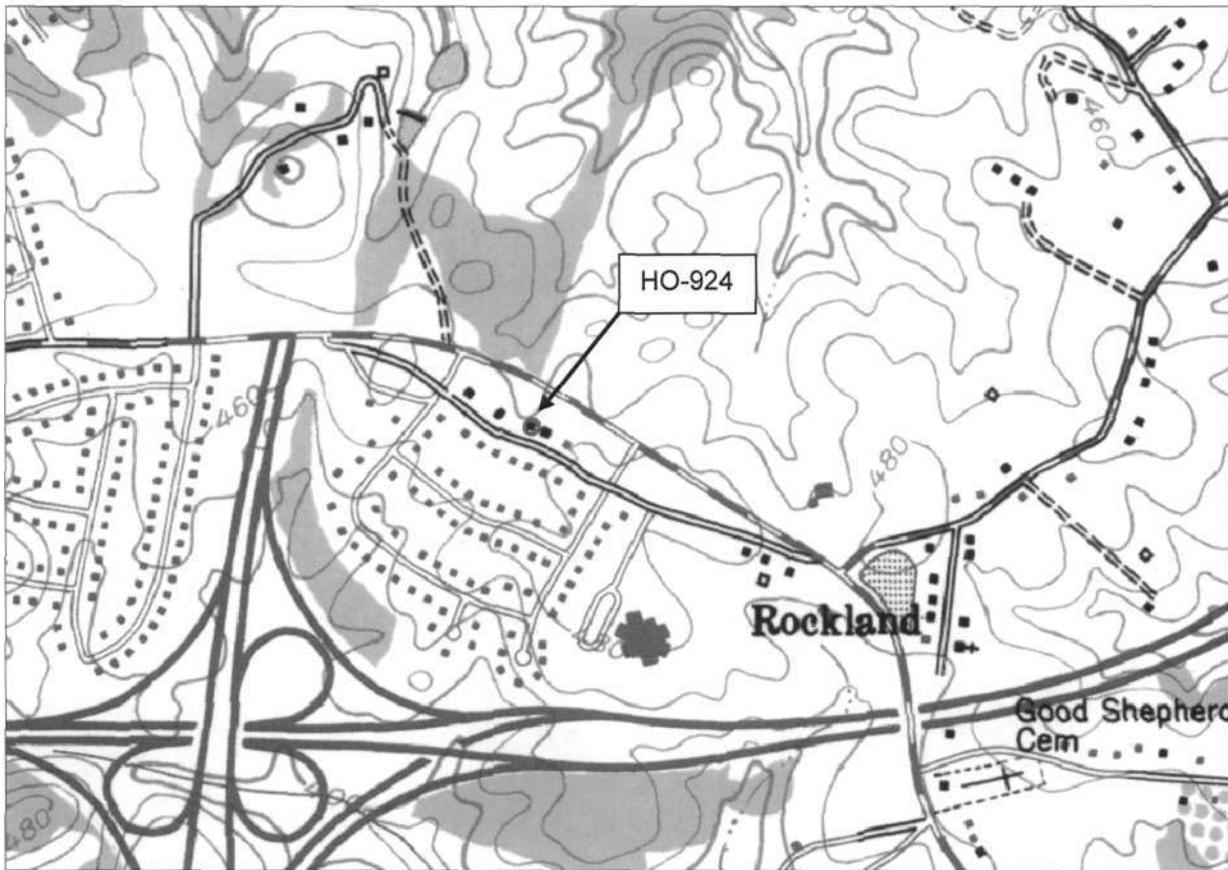
HO-924
Stirn Farm Tenant House, site
8914 Old Frederick Road, Ellicott City
Howard County GIS
Howard County Aerial Photography Viewer

demolished 2007



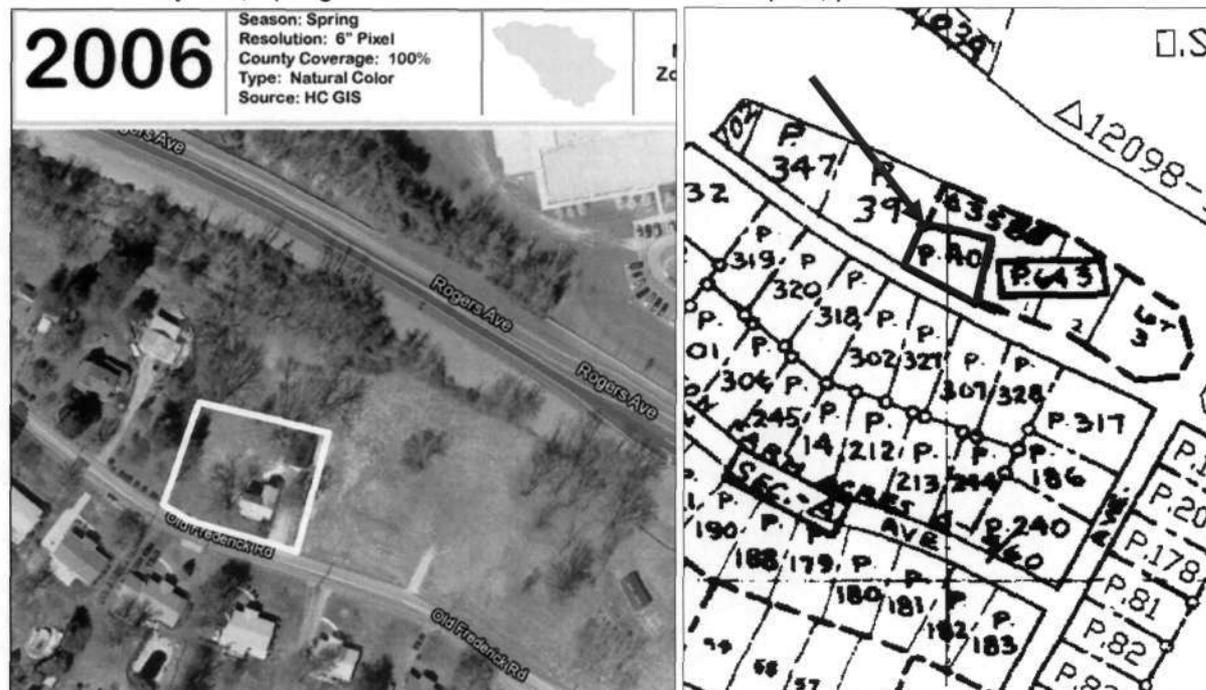
HO-924
 Stirn Farm Tenant House, site
 8914 Old Frederick Road, Ellicott City
 Ellicott City Quad

demolished 2007



Howard County GIS, Spring 2006 Aerial Photo

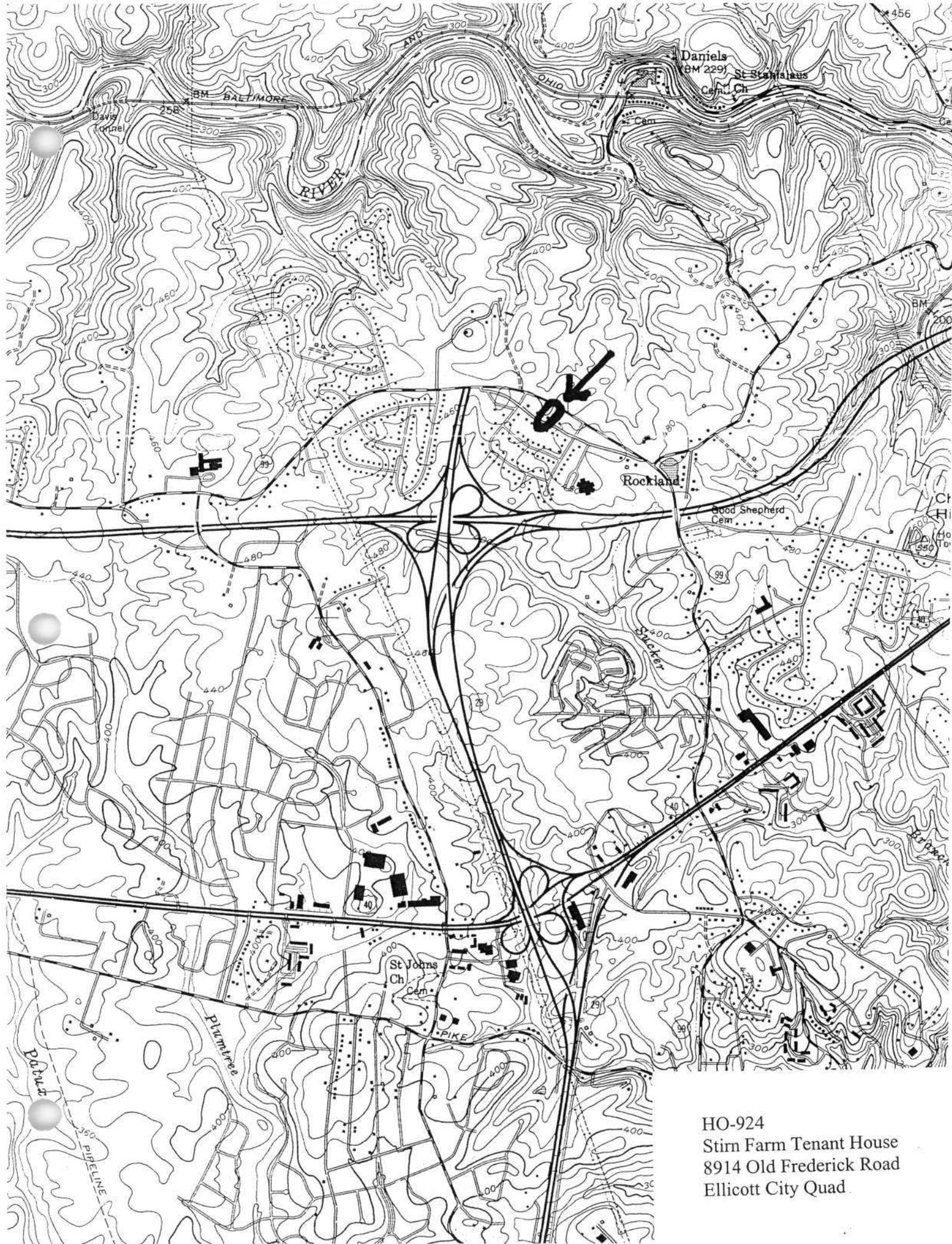
Tax Map 17, p. 40



2006

Season: Spring
 Resolution: 6" Pixel
 County Coverage: 100%
 Type: Natural Color
 Source: HC GIS





HO-924
Stirn Farm Tenant House
8914 Old Frederick Road
Ellicott City Quad



HO-924 Stirn Farm Tenant House 8914 Old Frederick Road Northwest & southwest elevations
Ken Short, October 2006 1/3



HO-924 Stirn Farm Tenant House 8914 Old Frederick Road Southwest & southeast elevations
Ken Short, October 2006 2/3



HO-924 Stirn Farm Tenant House 8914 Old Frederick Road Southeast & northeast elevations
Ken Short, October 2006 3/3

HO-0924_20061003_01
Stirn Farm Tenant House
8914 Old Frederick Road
Howard County, Maryland
Northwest & southwest elevations
Ken Short,
October 2006
1/3

HO-0924_20061003_02
Stirn Farm Tenant House
8914 Old Frederick Road
Howard County, Maryland
Southwest & southeast elevations
Ken Short,
October 2006
2/3

HO-0924_20061003_03
Stirn Farm Tenant House
8914 Old Frederick Road
Howard County, Maryland
Southeast & northeast elevations
Ken Short,
October 2006
3/3